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Food and Nutrition

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FOOD STAMP ALLOTMENTS TO INCREASE IN JANUARY

THE FOOD STAMP allotment for a family of four will increase on January 1 from \$150 to \$154, based on August food price statistics. The Food Stamp Act, as amended by the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-86), requires that coupon allotments be adjusted semi-annually to reflect changes in the prices of food as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Allotment adjustments are based on the cost of the USDA economy food plan as it is computed from Bureau of Labor Statistics food prices. The January 1975 increase is based on the cost of the economy food plan in August.

The cost of the economy food plan for August was \$153.40 for a family of four with schoolchildren. Accordingly, USDA will raise the value of the coupon allotment from \$150 to \$154 for a family of four and make appropriate adjustments for other household sizes. The maximum income eligibility standard for the four-person household will increase from \$500 to \$513.

The tables on page 2 give coupon allotments, income eligibility standards and purchase requirements for all household sizes in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia. They were published in the Federal Register on Nov. 18. Separate tables for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam will be announced shortly.

Maximum income eligibility standards by household size starting Jan. 1 are:

One.....	\$194	Five.....	\$606
Two.....	280	Six.....	700
Three.....	406	Seven.....	793
Four.....	513	Eight.....	886

For each additional household member over eight, add \$73 to the eight-person eligibility level.

FOOD COUPONS REDESIGNED

ON MARCH 1, the Food and Nutrition Service will replace the current 50-cent, \$2 and \$5 food stamp series with a \$1, \$5 and \$10 series. The new food stamps and new coupon books have been redesigned.

The larger denominations are expected to solve problems caused by the volume of coupons needed to meet increased food stamp allotments, and rises in shipping and production costs. The new, more sophisticated designs will also deter counterfeiting.

After Feb. 28, retail grocers authorized to accept food stamps will give each food stamp customer change in the form of one dollar coupons and a credit slip worth no more than 99 cents.

Old coupons in circulation after Feb. 28, including food stamps in household-size books, can be used to buy food until July 1, 1975.

LAST COUNTY DESIGNATED FOR FOOD STAMPS

BEAVER COUNTY, OKLA., which has never had a family food assistance program of any kind, was recently designated to participate in the food stamp program.

FOOD STAMP ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS (Effective January 1)

<u>48 States and District of Columbia</u>	<u>Number of Persons in Household:</u>							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	<u>Monthly Coupon Allotment:</u>							
	\$46	\$84	\$122	\$154	\$182	\$210	\$238	\$266
<u>Monthly Net Income</u>	<u>Monthly Purchase Requirement:</u>							
\$ 0 to 19.99	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
20 to 29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 to 39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
40 to 49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
50 to 59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
60 to 69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
70 to 79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
80 to 89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
90 to 99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
100 to 109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
110 to 119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
120 to 129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
130 to 139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
140 to 149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
150 to 169.99	33	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
170 to 189.99	36	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
190 to 209.99	36	50	52	53	54	55	56	57
210 to 229.99		56	58	59	60	61	62	63
230 to 249.99		62	64	65	66	67	68	69
250 to 269.99		64	70	71	72	73	74	75
270 to 289.99		64	76	77	78	79	80	81
290 to 309.99			82	83	84	85	86	87
310 to 329.99			88	89	90	91	92	93
330 to 359.99			94	95	96	97	98	99
360 to 389.99			100	104	105	106	107	108
390 to 419.99			104	113	114	115	116	117
420 to 449.99				122	123	124	125	126
450 to 479.99				130	132	133	134	135
480 to 509.99				130	141	142	143	144
510 to 539.99				130	150	151	152	153
540 to 569.99					154	160	161	162
570 to 599.99					154	169	170	171
600 to 629.99					154	178	179	180
630 to 659.99						178	188	189
660 to 689.99						178	197	198
690 to 719.99						178	202	207
720 to 749.99							202	216
750 to 779.99							202	225
780 to 809.99							202	226
810 to 839.99								226
840 to 869.99								226
870 to 899.99								226

For each additional household member over 8 add \$22 to the 8-person allotment.

The designation of Beaver County means that every county in the Nation has now been designated for the food stamp program, in line with provisions of the 1973 Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act, which mandates a nationwide food stamp program.

However, two other designated counties--Montgomery County, Ind., and Madison County, Mont.--have refused to operate programs.

FOOD PROGRAM PEOPLE

P. ROYAL SHIPP has been named director of the Food Stamp Division. He has been acting director since August 1974.

Prior to that, Mr. Shipp was assistant deputy administrator for program operations for FNS. From 1968 to 1973 he worked closely with FNS programs as an analyst and budget examiner for food stamps, public assistance, Federal housing programs and revenue sharing in the Office of Management and Budget. He worked as an economist for the Federal Reserve System from 1964 to 1968.

Mr. Shipp received his B.S. in business management from the University of Utah, and earned his master's degree and doctorate, both in business administration, from Indiana University.

NORTHEAST REGION HOLDS FOOD STAMP CONFERENCE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARD L. Feltner was the keynote speaker at the Northeast Region's Second Annual Food Stamp Conference Nov. 18-22 at Cherry Hill, N.J.

The aim of the conference, attended by more than 100 persons representing the region's 16 States as well as Northeast and Washington FNS personnel, was to bring State officials up-to-date on current administrative developments within the food stamp program. Some of the main topics included the new reimbursement rates for State administrative

costs, new certification procedures, analysis of quality control results, and the new coupon series.

FNS REORGANIZES CHILD NUTRITION DIVISION

ON NOVEMBER 25, the Child Nutrition Division of the Food and Nutrition Service will begin operating under a new organization plan which will structure the work of the division according to the programs it operates.

These programs are national in scope, complex, and have grown tremendously in the past several years. To better manage them the division will now be organized by "program" rather than "function." Each of the division's five new branches will now handle all aspects of a specific program. In the past, each branch had worked on similar facets of all child nutrition programs.

The new branches of the Child Nutrition Division are: School Nutrition Programs; Special Milk and Commodity Allocation; Special Feeding Programs; Nonfood Assistance; Funds Allocation and Review. The managers of these programs report to a National Child Nutrition Programs Manager, who is responsible to the Administrator of FNS.

The reorganization fixes responsibility for specific programs and projects, thus improving the ability of FNS to establish and monitor program objectives. It will also ensure adequate attention to each program's needs at all times. Additional advantages of the reorganization are opportunities for better staff development and improved employee identification with the programs.

William G. "Jerry" Boling has been named as the National Child Nutrition Programs Manager. An Assistant to the National Programs Manager, an Administrative Officer, and a Program Review and Analysis Staff will provide

Mr. Boling with additional support.

WIC STAFF MEETS

ON NOV. 20 the WIC staff concluded a series of regional workshops that were held to bring about a better understanding of the program and its problems. The five meetings included representatives from the Washington staff, the Regional Offices, and cooperating State agencies.

To date, FNS has approved 254 project areas in 45 States, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands for the WIC program. They constitute a caseload of about 435,000 persons. A total of 240 projects were in operation in October 1974.

NEW RELEASES

● "The Four Food Groups for Better Meals Game" (FNS-122) is a children's activity similar to "Bingo," which teaches nutrition education. It is intended for use by USDA's Extension Service, schools, welfare and health departments, and other groups concerned with nutrition education for participants in child nutrition and food stamp programs.

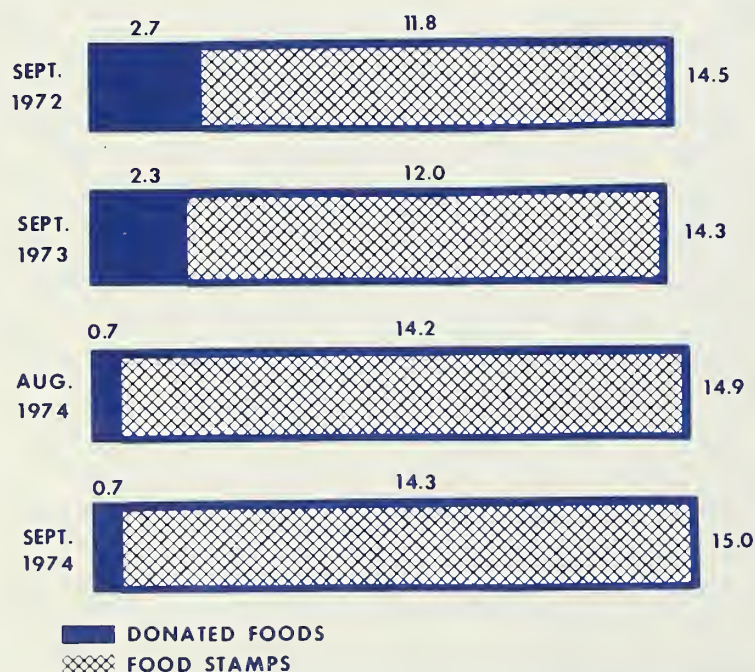
Copies cost \$3.95 and can be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

● "Food Stamp Facts...Household Income Deductions" (FNS-74). The revised fact sheet includes updated information on which household expenses can be deducted from income when an individual's eligibility is determined.

● "Food Stamp Facts...Meals on Wheels" (FNS-75). This fact sheet, explaining how certain elderly people can use food stamps to pay for delivered meals, has been updated in line with new food stamp regulations.

● "The World Food Situation" (A-61) is a 22-frame slide set of charts which brings the viewer up-to-date on the world food situation. It includes two copies of a pamphlet combining visuals and a text that may be used alone or as a guide for expanded presentations. Available for \$10 from Photography Division, Office of Communication, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

FAMILY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
(Millions of Participants)



NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM
(Millions of Participants)

